

MAR 28 2007

Serial No.: 09/361,734
Art Unit: 2615
Inventor: Joji KASAI et al.

Attorney's Docket No.: FUR0007-US
Page 5

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-19 were pending in this application. Claims 7-16 were withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a nonelected invention. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, and 6 are amended and claims 7-16 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in a divisional application. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment, claims 1-6 and 17-19 will be pending.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by the Examiner in the telephonic interview of March 1, 2007, and in reconsidering the rejections. Applicants requested that the Examiner reconsider the rejections made in the Office Action dated February 22, 2007, based on the claims as they were previously amended. Applicants submitted that the claims were patentable because U.S. Patent No. 5,033,092 to Sadaie ("Sadaie") was directed to eliminating a phase difference at the location of a listener positioned at unequal distances from sound sources while the present invention generates a phase difference at the location of a listener located at substantially same distances from left and right sound sources. In a follow-up discussion on March 8, 2007, the Examiner indicated that the arguments were persuasive and that the claims would be allowable if clarifying language were added. Accordingly, the claimed range of relative phase difference has been recited as being at the location of the listener, which aspects are believed to have already been claimed by virtue of the reference to *the* produced relative phase difference.

LEGAL_US_E # 74470047.1

Serial No.: 09/361,734
Art Unit: 2615
Inventor: Joji KASAI et al.

Attorney's Docket No.: FUR0007-US
Page 6

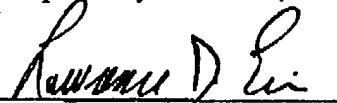
In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

PAUL, HASTINGS, JANOFSKY & WALKER LLP
875 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tel: 202/551-1700

Date: March 28, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Michael Bednarek
Registration No. 32,329

MDB/LDE/GSS/ggb

Customer No. 36183

LEGAL_US_E# 74470047.1